



News Flash - Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce that a new educational resource has been posted to the PQRI webpage on the CMS website and is available for ordering through the Medicare Learning Network product ordering system. The *2008 PQRI Reporting Options Quick Reference Chart* is a two-sided laminated reference chart, which gives eligible professionals and practice staff a quick reference to the new reporting options available for 2008 PQRI with their corresponding alternative reporting periods. To access this new educational resource, visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI> on the CMS website and click on the Educational Resources tab. Once on the *Educational Resources* page, scroll down to the "Downloads" section and click on the "2008 PQRI Quick Reference Chart" link. To order the laminated product, visit http://cms.meridianksi.com/kc/main/kc_frame.asp?kc_ident=kc0001&loc=5 on the CMS website and click on the 2008 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) Reporting Quick Option Reference Chart (ICN# 900843)(May 2008) link.

MLN Matters Number: MM6036

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6036

Related CR Release Date: July 25, 2008

Effective Date: May 23, 2008

Related CR Transmittal #: R263PI

Implementation Date: August 8, 2008

Revisions to the Chapter 14 of the Medicare Program Integrity Manual

Provider Types Affected

Providers and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers, fiscal intermediaries (FIs), Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs and DME MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

This article is informational only and is based on Change Request (CR) 6036 which reminds providers that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) no longer issues, updates, or uses the Unique Physician Identification Number (UPIN) in claims processing. CR 6036 also provides information on how to access the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) and UPIN data.

Background

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

The Administrative Simplification provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) mandate the adoption of a standard unique health identifier for each health care provider. CMS published the National Provider Identifier (NPI) final rule, which established the NPI as this standard.

CR 6036 updates Medicare's Program Integrity Manual, Chapter 14, Sections 14.1 -14.4) by removing information related to the issuance and maintenance of UPINs and replacing this information with information about obtaining NPI and UPIN data. CR 6036 includes the updated Chapter 14 as an attachment.

Information about the NPI can be found on the National Provider Identifier Standard web page at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/> on the CMS website.

Since the UPIN Registry is no longer available, a copy of the UPIN file can be obtained by writing to:

CMS Public Use Files
7500 Security Boulevard, N1-15-03
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

The following information is releasable for physicians and non-physician practitioners:

- Full name,
- Credentials (e.g., MD),
- UPIN,
- State,
- ZIP Code, and
- Specialty code.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 6036, issued to your carrier, FI, A/B MAC, and DME MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R263PI.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier, FI, or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

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